

**TOP SECRET SENSITIVE** **EXCLUSIVE** **EYES ONLY**

T O P S E C R E T 101622Z NOV 71 SENSITIVE EXCLUSIVELY  
EYES ONLY VIA CAS CHANNELS  
FROM: HENRY A. KISSINGER  
TO: AMBASSADOR BUNKER, SAIGON  
CITE: WHS1132

NOVEMBER 10, 1971

THE PRESIDENT HAS NOW DECIDED TO PROCEED WITH THE NEXT  
TROOP WITHDRAWAL ANNOUNCEMENT AT NOON, WASHINGTON TIME,  
ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12. THE ANNOUNCEMENT WILL BE LIMITED TO  
CONFIRMATION OF HIS DECISION TO STEP UP THE RATE OF WITH-  
DRAWAL TO 20,000 P/R MONTH FOR THE MONTHS OF DECEMBER AND  
JANUARY AND NOT GO BEYOND THAT. THERE WILL BE NO REPEAT NO  
DISCUSSION OF TERMINATION OF COMBAT ACTIVITY, TERMINATION OF  
DRAFT, OR OTHER DETAILS WHICH WOULD TEND TO TRANSLATE THEM-  
SELVES INTO ADDITIONAL COMMITMENTS FOR THE FUTURE. HE WILL  
PROBABLY CONFIRM THAT HE WILL HAVE ANOTHER ANNOUNCEMENT  
SOMETIME IN JANUARY. ALL THIS, OF COURSE, CONFORMS TO THE  
GAMEPLAN WHICH HAIG DESCRIBED TO YOU IN DETAIL AND TO PRES-  
IDENT THUR IN GENERAL TERMS.

I WILL INFORM YOU SHORTLY ON THE DETAILS OF THIS GAME-  
PLAN AS IT UNFOLDS. IN THE MEANTIME, PLEASE INFORM THUR  
OF THE TIMING AND SCOPE OF FRIDAY'S TROOP WITHDRAWAL ANNOUNCE-  
MENT, CAUTIONING HIM AS USUAL OF THE EXTREME SENSITIVITY OF  
THIS INFORMATION AND ABSOLUTE NEED TO MAINTAIN SECRECY UNTIL  
THE TIME OF THE ANNOUNCEMENT.

WARM PERSONAL REGARDS.

BT  
0154

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

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